

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claim 5 represents allowable subject matter. Amended Claim 1 is directed to that subject matter.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 629 004. The present amendment renders moot this rejection.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 629 004. The present amendment renders moot this rejection.

Applicants confirm that the subject matter of all claims was commonly owned at the time the inventions claimed were made.

Believing the above represents a complete response to the Office Action and that the application is in condition for allowance, Applicants request the earliest issuance of an indication to this effect.

Respectfully submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_

  
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